

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SOFIA 00628 070054Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-14 AF-10 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 ACDA-12 EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01

TRSE-00 /112 W

-----026355 071622Z /53

R 061300Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO USINFO WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4370

UNCLAS SOFIA 0628

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL TRIP TO LA AND AF

1. ON EVE OF PRESIDENT'S TRIP PARTY ORGAN "RABOTNICHESKO DELO" WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT VLADIMIR LANKOV SAID (MARCH 29, P.5) "ECONOMIC THEME" WOULD BE CENTER OF DISCUSSIONS IN NIGERIA AND VENEZUELA. UNDER HEAD "MISSION OF SMILES" TODOR DIMITROV IN "VECHERNI NOVINY" (MARCH 29, P.3) SAID "US IS ALARMED BY FAILURES IN MANY SPHERES" IN AFRICA, "A CONTINENT WHICH VIGOROUSLY LOOKS FOR NEW WAYS OF INDEPENDENT AND PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT." ACCORDING TO DIMITROV "WASHINGTON IS CONSIDERED TO BE A SUPPORTER AND MAINSTAY OF CONSERVATIVE AND REACTIONARY REGIMES IN AFRICA." TO HIS OWN QUESTION "WILL CARTER PUBLICLY DENOUNCE THIS IMPERIALIST COURSE OF US?" DIMITROV ANSWERED: "OCJY PLATONIC PROMISES, WHICH HAVE NO PRACTICAL VALUE FOR THE FUTURE WHATSOEVER, CAN BE EXPECTED."

2. ON APRIL 4 TRADE UNION ORGAN "TRUD" CARRIED (P.4) LEON KHASID'S INTERNATIONAL COMMENTARY COLUMN, HEADED "OLD GOODS IN NEW WRAPPING." KHASID SAID PRESIDENT'S TOUR AIMED TO DEMONSTRATE US INCREASED INTEREST IN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SOFIA 00628 070054Z

AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA BUT "PEOPLE ARE FED UP WITH BOMBASTIC DECLARATIONS AND PROMISES FOR 'EQUAL COOPERATION,' FOR 'NEW US POLICY IN AFRICA,' AND ESPECIALLY IN DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS." KHASID ASKED WHY ANYONE SHOULD BE SURPRISED AT "COOL RECEPTION AND DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT" OF PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO VENEZUELA. ACCORDING TO KHASID, CARTER'S PROMISES TO VENEZUELA CAME

ONLY TWO DAYS AFTER US IMPOSED EMBARGO ON IMPORTS OF MORE THAN 60 COMMODITIES FROM MEXICO FOR ITS REFUSAL TO SELL NATURAL GAS TO US AT LOW PRICES. KHASID SAID LA DOUBTS SINCERITY OF WASHINGTON ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE BECAUSE "IN PRACTICE US CONTINUES TO SUPPORT DICTATOR REGIMES IN CHILE, URUGUAY, GUATEMALA, NICARAGUA, AND IN OTHER COUNTRIES." HE SAID "INCOMPATIBILITY BETWEEN DEEDS NLAND DECLARATIONS MAY ALSO BE REVEALED IN 'THE NEW AFRICAN POLICY' PROCLAIMED BY US." -- I.E. SUPPORTING BLACKS BUT REJECTING PATRIOTIC FRONTS. KHASID CONCLUDED THAT DESPITE "PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN" ACCOMPANYING CARTER'S TOUR HIS MISSION COULD NOT BE SUCCESSFUL SINCE ITS USIC TARGET WAS DEFENSE OF INTERESTS OF AMERICAN MONOPOLIES AND OF WASHINGTON'S STRATEGY PLANS" FOR AF AND LA.

3. ON APRIL 5 "RABOTNICHESKO DELO" (P.5) CARRIED WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT LANKOV'S ARTICLE HEADED "INEFFECTUAL TRIP." LANKOV SAID PRESIDENT EVALUATED HIS VISIT AS "A GREAT SUCCESS" BUT THAT HIS CLOSE ASSOCIATES WERE "MORE RESTRAINED," BEING SATISFIED WITH CARTER "ESTABLISHING PERSONAL CONTACT" WITH LEADERS OF THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES. ACCORDING TO LANKOV STRATEGIC AIM OF TOUR WAS SYMBOLIC (HUMAN RIGHTS) AND PRACTICAL (PETROLEUM PRICES). HE SAID US HAD SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED ITS PURCHASES OF VENEZUELAN PETROLEUM, THUS FORC
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 SOFIA 00628 070054Z

EG THAT COUNTRY TO CURB PRODUCTION. DESPITE INSISTENCE BY PEREZ, LANKOV ALLEGED, CARTER REFUSED TO PROMISE TO INCREASE PURCHASES. ANOTHER THING, HE SAID, WAS PRESIDENT'S "SHARP CRITICISM" OF OPEC'S POLICY WITH VENEZUELA A MEMBER. ACCORDING TO LANKOV PEREZ "EMPHASIZED THAT PETROLEUM MAY BE USED AS ECONOMIC WEAPON AGAINST DEVELOPED CAPITALIST COUNTRIES" AND "USING CAUTIOUS DIPLOMATIC LANGUAGEHNEREZ EXPRESSED OPINION THAT CARTER'S GENEROUS PHRASES XM HUMAN RIGHTS WERE NOT SUPPORTED BY US ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS."

4. LANKOV USED "WASH. POST" TO SAY THAT IN BRAZIL CARTER WAS MET WITH "ICY POLITENESS," THAT AT PRESS CONFERENCE PRESIDENT WAS "FORCED TO ADMIT EXISTENCE OF SERIOUS DIFFERENCES" BETWEEN US AND BRAZIL, AND THAT LACK OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE SPEAKS FOR ITSELF. LANKOV SAID WASHINGTON CONSIDERED VISIT TO NIGERIA "MOST SIGNIFICANT" PART OF ENTIRE TOUR, AND CONTINUED: "CARTER'S APPEAL FOR 'BLACK AFRICA TO THE BLACKS' IN PRACTICE LEFT TOOLS OF POWER AND FORCE IN HANDS OF IAN SMITH'S WHITE MINORITY." LANKOV CONCLUDED: "FIRST COMMENTARIES ON CARTER'S TOUR ARE CAUTIOUS IN THEIR TONE AND UNANIMOUS IN THEIR

ASS SMENT THAT IT DID NOT LEAD TO ANY SIGNIFICANT RESULTS. AND IT DID NOT DIFFER FROM FORMER TOUR ABOUT WHICH A NOTNC OBSERVER WROTE THAT ITS ONLY RESULT WAS ATTEMPT THROUGH POLITICAL SYMBOLISM TO CONCEAL DISAGREEMENTS AND DIFFERENCES IN RELATIONS. AND THIS MEANS THAT SERIOUS PROBLEMS REMAIN UNSOLVED."
GARTHOFF

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SOFIA00628
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780150-1154
Format: TEL
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780485/aaaacueh.tel
Line Count: 123
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: df845cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3053101
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL TRIP TO LA AND AF
TAGS: OVIP, PGOV
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/df845cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014